

THE **WEALD**
FOUNDATION



Military Heritage Sustainable Skills for Life

Instructional Lesson Plan 3

LP1 - Australian Local Pattern Carrier

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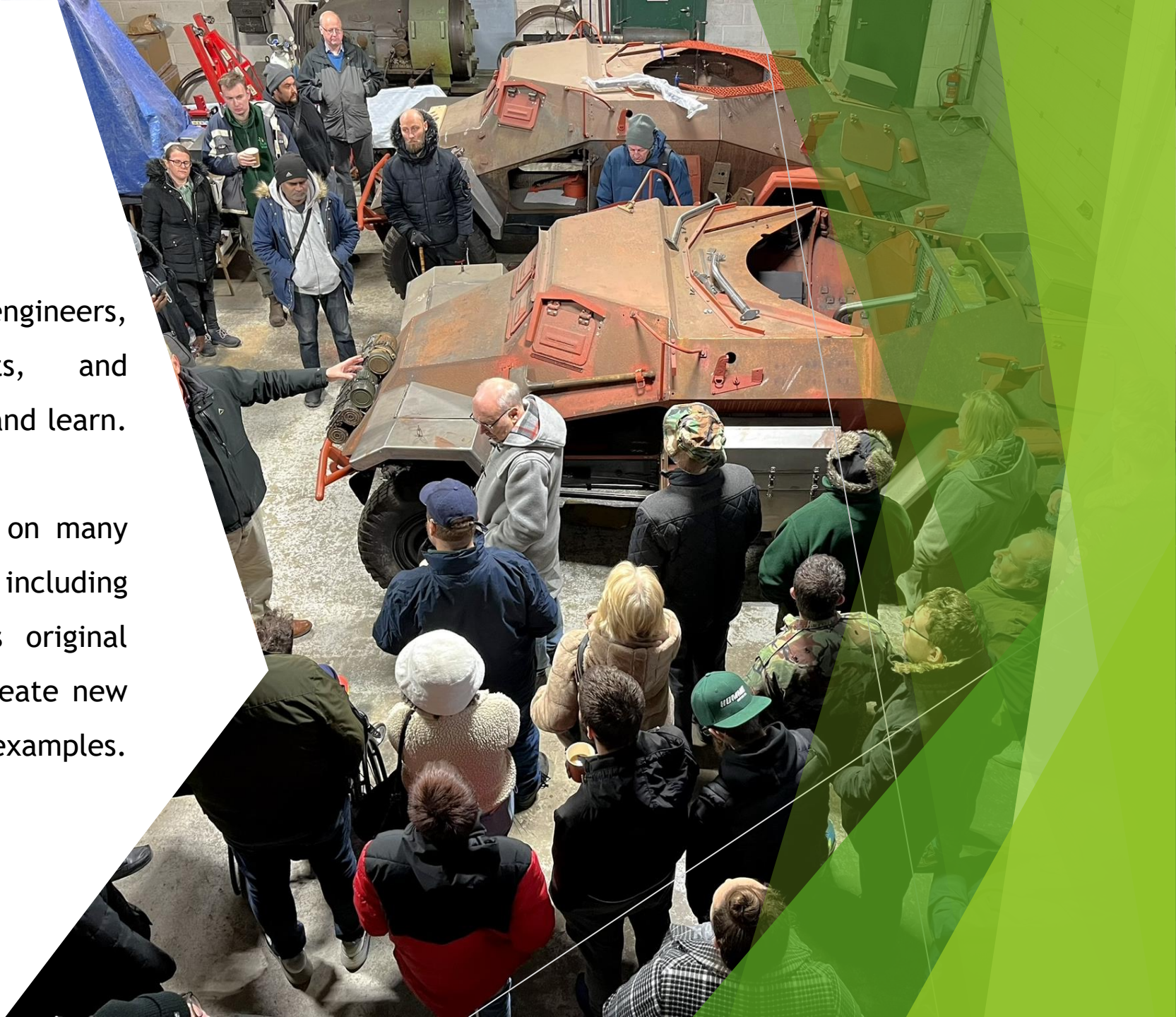
Who are we and what we do?

The Weald Foundation is a charitable organisation established to preserve, restore and maintain historic military vehicles from both World Wars, and to educate the public about their history.

Our unique line up of rare and important military vehicles that we have rescued is considered to be one of the finest working collections in the world.

At the Weald Foundation, schools, engineers, historians, modellers, enthusiasts, and collectors come together to discover and learn.

We have carried out extensive work on many types of armoured fighting vehicles, including tank restoration. Our team sources original components and, where necessary, create new parts from the original blueprints or examples.



Our research into the history of every vehicle in our collection provides unique authenticity to our work.

We strive to understand each vehicle's story, where and when it was assembled, its role in combat, and the story of the people who operated them or fought against them.




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Skills and Development through Military Heritage

Providing Sustainable Skills for Life

A group of people holding hands in a circle, symbolizing unity and support. The image is partially obscured by a white semi-transparent box containing text. The background is a mix of green and white geometric shapes.

At The Weald Foundation people are given an opportunity to experience first-hand our working environment, meet staff and see the restoration process in action. Our aims:

- To bring people from different geographical and ethnic backgrounds together in a structured, supportive environment and to help break down barriers and create change.
- Re-engage people with education, employment or training and help them to gain skills.




The main objective of The Weald Foundation charity is 'Education'.

We have offered Apprenticeships and successfully assisted individuals in secure employment.

We are an ASDAN-accredited provider offering accredited qualifications.

Military Heritage is our focus



81444

FIT FLOOR
AND FLO

Indian / New Zealand Pattern Carrier

As World War II broke out, the United Kingdom faced difficulties in meeting the Commonwealth's demand for armoured fighting vehicles. This situation prompted many Commonwealth countries to design their own vehicles. Lacking the advanced industrial capacity to produce heavily armoured vehicles like tanks, these countries mainly focused on developing armoured cars, often utilizing imported chassis.









Indian Pattern Carrier Mk.II in North Africa



Indian Pattern Carrier Mk.II in North Africa

India designed a series of armoured vehicles known as the Armoured Carrier, Wheeled, Indian Pattern (ACV-IP). These vehicles were built using Ford or GMC CMP truck chassis imported from Canada, with the Indian Railways primarily responsible for constructing the armoured hulls. The typical armament featured a Bren light machine gun, which was mounted in a small turret in some variants, a Boys anti-tank rifle, and a No. 19 radio set. Production of the ACV-IP took place from 1940 to 1944, resulting in a total of 4,655 vehicles.

RADIATOR GRILL.

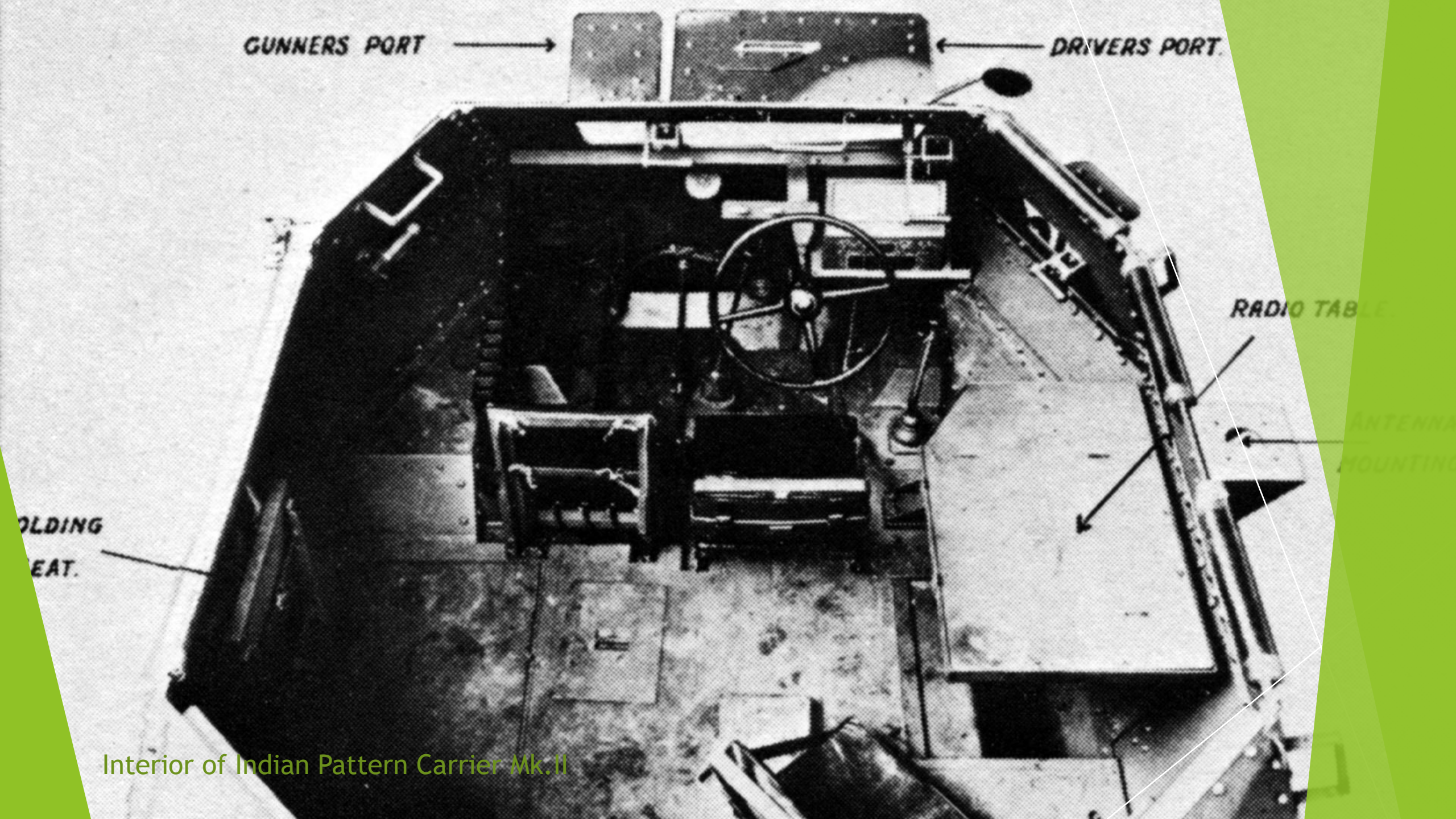
HATCH FOR ACCESS
TO ENGINE.

ENGINE COOLING GRILL

ACCESS TO ENGINE



Interior of Indian Pattern Carrier Mk.II



GUNNERS PORT



DRIVERS PORT



RADIO TABLE

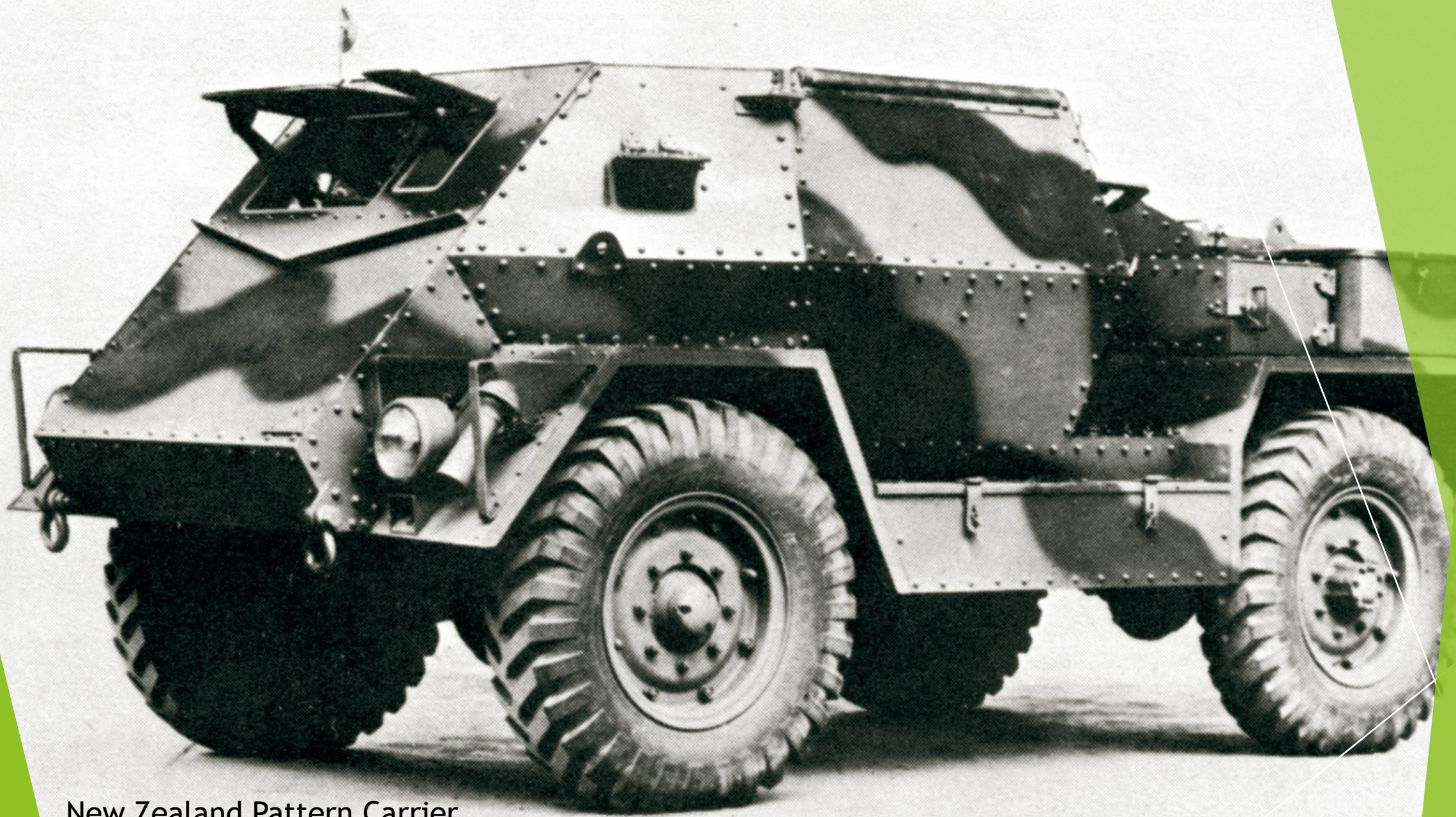


ANTENNA MOUNTING

HOLDING SEAT

Interior of Indian Pattern Carrier Mk.II

The ACV-IP was deployed by Indian units in the Far East, Mediterranean, and Middle East theatres. The vehicles were typically assigned to divisional reconnaissance regiments, serving as reconnaissance vehicles, personnel carriers, anti-aircraft weapon carriers, or Forward Observation Officer vehicles.

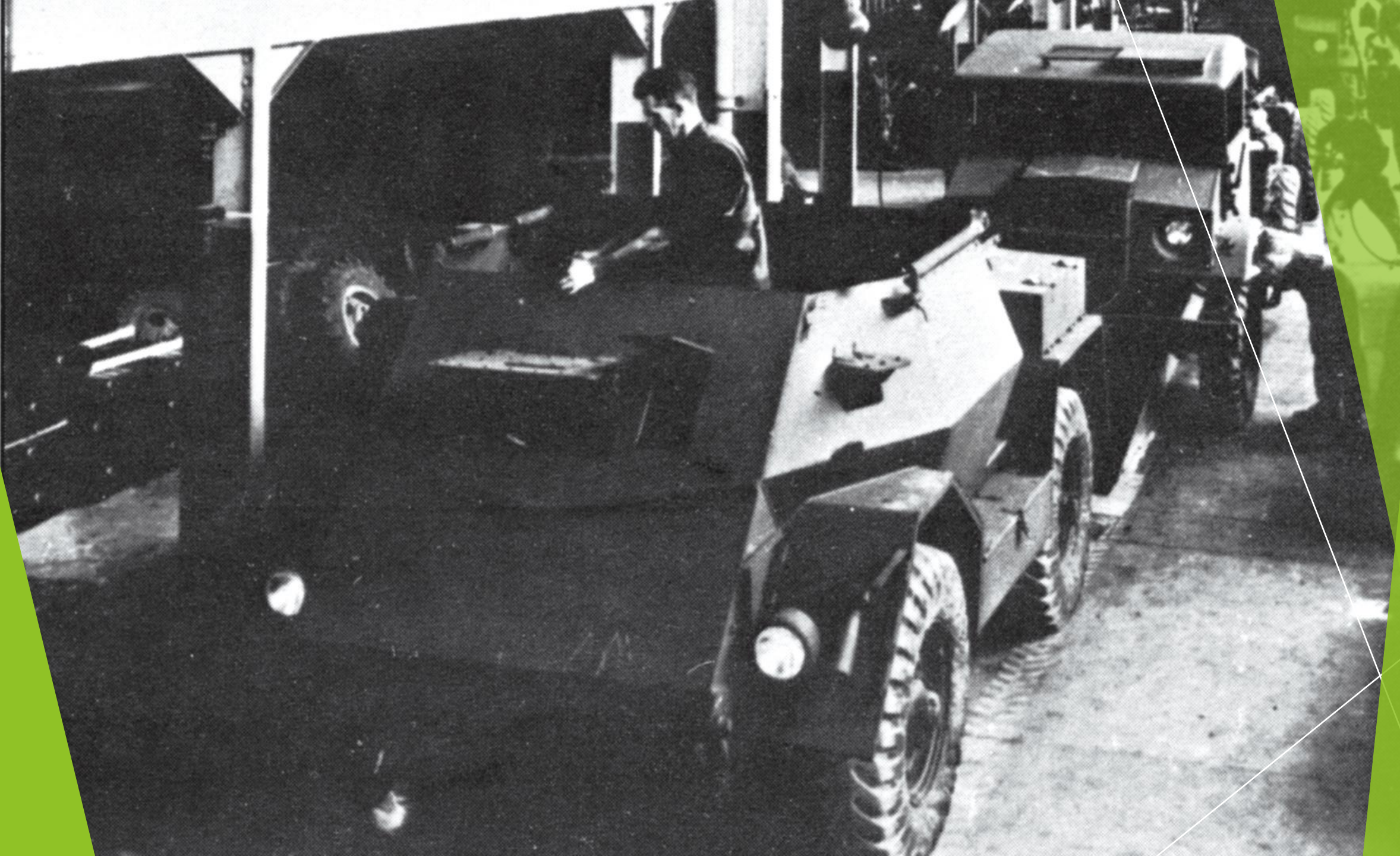


New Zealand Pattern Carrier



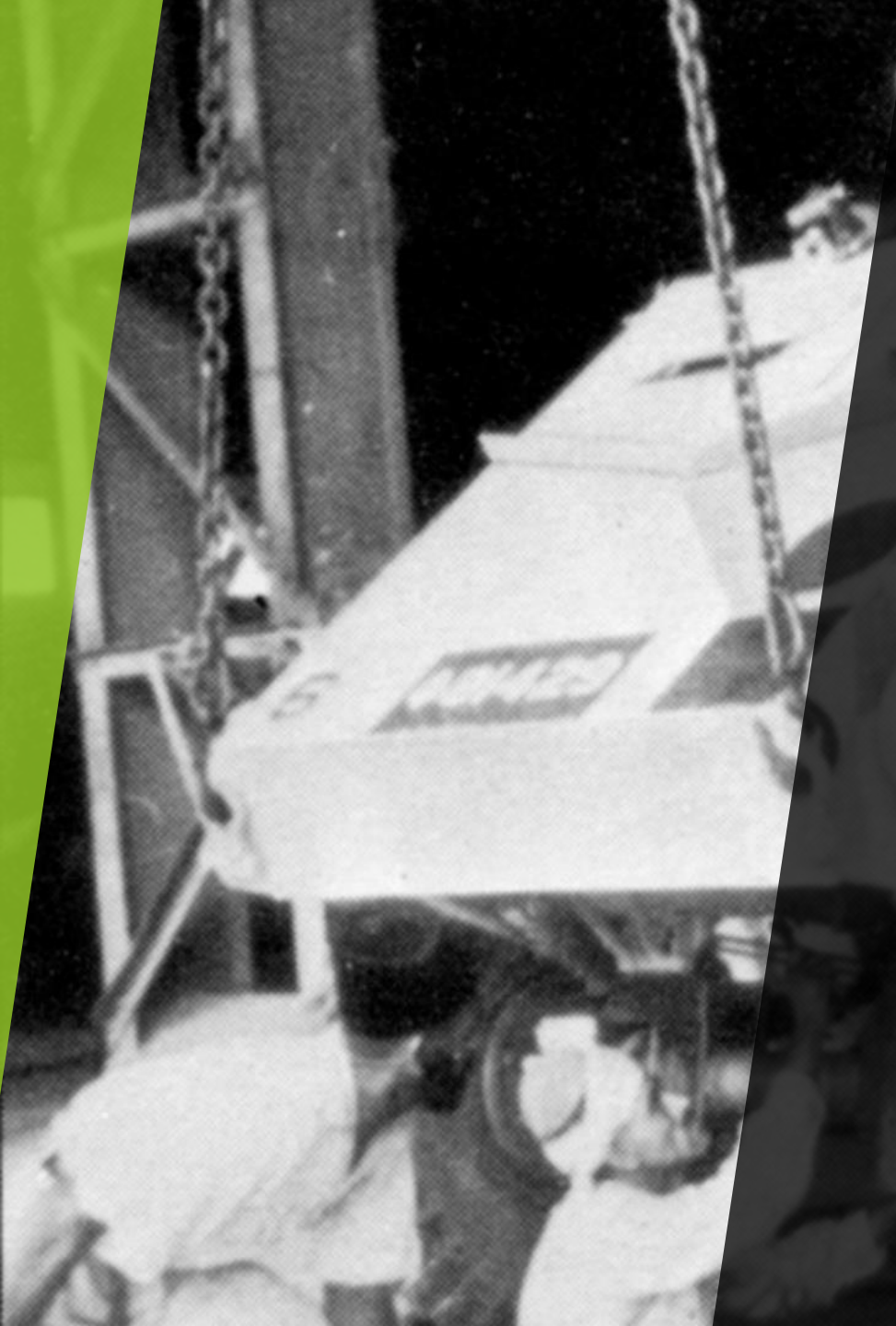
New Zealand Pattern Carrier Mk.II

New Zealand also created their own version of the armoured vehicle. After negotiations with India to acquire their Pattern Carrier failed, an order for 45 vehicles was placed with Ford Motor Co. (NZ) Ltd in March 1942, along with a corresponding number of chassis from Canada. In August 1942, the Army ordered an additional 54 vehicles, bringing the total to 99.



Construction of the armoured hulls was supposed to begin immediately at the NZ Railway Workshops in Petone, but it remains unclear if the order was executed. The chassis, which were still in Canada as late as November 1942, eventually arrived in early 1943, with production starting shortly after. Production ceased by February 1944, by which time 76 vehicles had been completed, 9 were in the process of being fitted with bodies, and 15 chassis remained untouched.

Information about the carriers' service history during World War II is limited. Only seven vehicles were sent to the Pacific with the 3rd NZ Division, and it is uncertain whether they participated in any of the three operations to secure the islands in the Solomon's archipelago.



Restoring the Indian/NZ Pattern Carrier

The History and Research of our vehicle.

Pre-Restoration of the Indian/NZ Pattern Carrier

The following images shows the Indian/NZ Pattern Carrier when it arrived at The Weald Foundation.

The images clearly show that much of the vehicle had corroded / rusted and required significant restoration work to be undertaken by our experts and engineers, this work takes years of painstaking skill and diligence to ensure that when restored it is as close to the original as possible.











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Contact Information

If you require more information about this Military Heritage project, or about skills and learning opportunities at The Weald Foundation.

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